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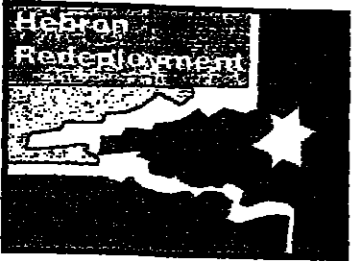
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No policy change on settlements, US reassures

JON IMMANUEL
AND BAT SHEVA TSUR



THE government yesterday defended both settlement expansion and its demand for free access to Palestinian-held areas of Hebron, while Palestinians maintained conceptual differences are blocking an agreement for IDF redeployment in Hebron.

At the same time, the US reassured Israel that there had been no policy change on its part concerning settlements. The assurance was conveyed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by US Ambassador Martin Indyk who met with him to consult on the peace negotiations yesterday.

"It's a mistaken concept to think that we can stop natural growth in [the territories]. There are people there whose children need to build homes and more kindergartens and schools are needed. Also we cannot stop people who want to move there from doing so," said Netanyahu's senior adviser, David Bar-Ilan. "The incentives given to people there are the same as those given to any other outlying area."

He said that in the haredi town of Emanuel, permission had been given to build "within the existing municipal boundaries."

Bar-Ilan noted that the Palestinians, too, were expanding. "They have more than 10 times the number of buildings under construction at the moment than those approved for the settlers," he said.

Indyk's clarification followed remarks on Tuesday by State Department spokesman Nick Burns, responding to questions about articles on settlement expansion that appeared in *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Burns indicated that the US continued to regard beefing up settlements as causing difficulties for the peace process.

On the IDF's freedom of access in the territories, Bar-Ilan said that the Oslo Accords are "very broad statements that are open to interpretation." They talk about Israel being able to take any measures deemed necessary to protect its citizens. We wanted to specify what measures, to draw parameters," he said.

Oslo architect Labor MK Yossi Beilin yesterday came to the government's assistance on this point, noting that the Oslo accords did not require Israel to notify the Palestinians if there was "engagement" in the H-1 Palestinian-held areas of Hebron after the redeployment.

Chief Palestinian negotiator on Hebron, Saeb Erekat, however, disputed this. He was emphatic that the Palestinians did not accept Israeli reengagement in H-1 even as part of joint mobile units. Although Erekat did not describe the talks as deallocked, in effect they are. The two sides did not meet yesterday and today Information Minister Yasser Abed-Rabbo is scheduled to present the Palestinian position at a press conference.

Although Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat is famous (Continued on Page 4)



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor emphasize the necessity of budget cuts at a press conference at the Knesset yesterday.

Budget brinkmanship

ANALYSIS
SARAH HONIG

THERE are a number of latent coalition-busters threatening Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. The Hebron issue seems particularly wrenching and menacing. But curiously, from a party political point of view, this most emotive issue is not the most dangerous for him.

Likud insiders have no doubt that the government's greatest potential peril is the budget, despite the fact that it arouses no passions and bores Mr. and Ms. Average Israeli like no other issue.

So why is this particular matter so politically loaded? After all each government has had its budget misadventures and they all tend to look the same in the end. The prime minister and his finance minister are always beset with pressures and demands from their own party MKs and coalition partners. No one is willing to be the sacrificial lamb when budget-cutting time comes around, and everyone vociferously clamors for more. This is how it is until the very last minute, and then all sides carefully pull back from the brink just before the fateful vote.

The most likely scenario is that this budget will be born via the same tortuous labor. And yet

in this case the government is in a far more precarious situation than normal. It is a matter of basic math.

Because of the blow suffered by the large parties in the last elections, Netanyahu heads a coalition made up of eight parties. To make matters worse, his own party numbers only 22 MKs, giving far more weight and extortion power to the small parties, which represent special interest groups. Funds are sought by the haredim, the immigrants, the settlers, lower-income groups, etc.

Foreign Minister David Levy's Gesher faction could well make trouble in the name of the have-nots. Levy has already demonstrated his ability to twist Netanyahu's arm. Levy's brother MK Maxim Levy served notice yesterday that he "will go all the way" in his war for funding, "even if it means bringing this government down."

With this sort of a coalition situation on the

one hand and given the fact that his finance minister is not a political bulldozer, Netanyahu has no option but to put his full political weight behind Finance Minister Dan Meridor's desperate efforts to slash the budget. So far nothing has been cut and at this point it is obvious that nothing will be if Netanyahu doesn't personally enter the fray.

Besides the cuts, unpopular measures must be rammed through to get the country out of the red, including, for instance, a fee for visits to health fund doctors. Though a relatively small expense for most families, this one is sure to rile the electorate and is thus not a move easy for politicians to make. Any hike in taxes or levies has been made more difficult by Netanyahu's promise not to increase the already awesome burden borne by the Israeli taxpayer.

As things stand now, it is a tug-of-war between the ministers who want no cuts in their departments and the prime minister who wants to avoid raising taxes. It will be six weeks before we know who won and, in politics, six weeks are a long time. There will be a lot of cliffhangers to come.

PM doesn't rule out tax cut

EVELYN GORDON

THE Treasury will submit its proposal for an additional budget cut of some NIS 2 billion to the cabinet in about two weeks, Finance Minister Dan Meridor said yesterday.

Meridor met with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday morning to discuss the new cut in the 1997 budget. Afterwards the two held a press conference at the Knesset.

Netanyahu said the exact size of the additional cut would depend on revenue levels during the rest of 1996.

"We are only now learning how unfortunate [the previous government's legacy] really was," he said.

The prime minister implied that the additional cut would be presented to the Knesset this year, saying he planned to pass "one budget, in one process, by the end of the year."

The two men declined to give details of the planned cuts, however.

"I won't give you the exact make-up of the cuts now, because we haven't finalized them yet," Meridor said, adding that the Treasury is still considering various alternatives. "But there is no doubt that we have already submitted the easier proposals."

Asked whether he would consider raising taxes if he failed to get the coalition to support the additional cuts, Netanyahu did not rule the idea out entirely, but said the government would do "everything in its power not to increase the tax burden."

"Israel already suffers from one of the highest tax burdens in the world," he said. "Increasing the tax burden would only reduce business activity... It would cause the very economic crisis we are trying to prevent."

"The government competes with industrialists ... for [financial]

resources," Meridor explained. "The more the government takes, the less there is available for growth. So how do taxes help me?"

Netanyahu stressed the importance of passing the cuts, saying there would be an economic crisis if the government did not deal now with its "national overdraft" - just as ordinary people eventually face economic disaster if they let their overdraft build up unchecked.

"We are, as the finance minister says, on the brink of an abyss," he said. "And who will pay the price [if there is an economic crisis]? The residents of North Tel Aviv? Of Herzliya? The ones who will pay the price will be the residents of the development towns... Whoever sabotages this budget cut is hurting the weaker sectors of society."

In contrast to what has been reported, there is great interest in Israel on the part of [foreign] investors," he continued. "The smartest money in the world is knocking at our door... But everyone, without exception, is watching us and asking: 'What will they do with the budget?'"

If we make the wrong choice and fail to make the necessary cuts, he said, investor interest will be drastically curtailed.

Meridor likened the situation to a medical problem: If caught early, it can be solved with minimal pain, but if left too long, only drastic measures will save the patient.

"I see all kinds of MKs who think that someone else bears the responsibility [for solving the economic crisis]," he added. "But the 120 MKs are as responsible as anyone else... And those who refuse to pass the budget cuts today will be the ones leading the demonstrations when unemployment increases."

(Continued on Page 4)

PM to Assad: Let's return to negotiations

BATSHEVA TSUR and HILLEL KUTTLER

ISRAEL sent a message to Damascus yesterday, reassuring Syria that it is interested in returning to the negotiating table.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu dispatched the message to Syrian President Hafez Assad via US Senator Arlen Specter, whom he met in his Knesset office. The message was also apparently intended to allay Syrian fears in the wake of remarks by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Specter, who was accompanied by US Ambassador Martin Indyk, left immediately afterward for Damascus. He met in Damascus with Assad and Foreign Minister Farouk Shara and returned to Israel yesterday evening. He will meet with Netanyahu again this morning.

Specter has tried before to mediate between Jerusalem and Damascus. Several weeks ago, he conveyed a similar message to Assad.

An Israeli official acknowledged yesterday that political differences between Israel and Syria militate against a meeting now between the envoys of the two sides.

He emphasized, though, that Israel is ready and willing to meet with the Syrians "at any place, at

any time."

The statements came in response to reports that a new rift had developed between the countries after Syrian Ambassador to the US, Walid Mualem, told journalists that he had heard Israeli Ambassador to the US Eliahu Ben-Elissar wanted to meet him, but that such a meeting would not be possible.

Ben-Elissar is in Israel this week for consultations. American officials have stated they do not expect Israeli-Syrian talks to resume until January 1997 at the earliest.

The sides have not met since last March, when Israel broke off the talks following the spate of suicide bombings.

The Israeli official said Ben-Elissar was not smitten because the embassy "never got an answer directly from the Syrians to the request for a meeting."

Nevertheless, Israel recognizes that a meeting now is not workable, he said.

The issue came about after Ben-Elissar held introductory meetings with the French and Russian ambassadors. When they asked how they could be helpful, Ben-Elissar suggested they help arrange a meeting with Mualem, the official said.

Report details series of PA violations of Oslo

LIAT COLLINS

THE Palestinian Authority continues to ignore the terror infrastructure in the areas under its control although it is working to thwart specific attacks, according to a 14-page report of Palestinian Authority violations of the Oslo Accords.

The report was presented by IDF Coordinator in the Territories Maj. Gen. Oren Shohar to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

According to an official briefing, Shohar said in recent months there had been signs of a decline in initiated actions by the Palestinian Authority against opposition groups, particularly an

easing of pressure on the terror infrastructure.

The report, distributed afterwards to parliamentary reporters, says the Palestinian Authority is not bringing the full weight of the law to bear against individuals involved in terrorism. No steps have been taken against the 200 suspects whose names appear on a list Israel has given the Palestinians, and some individuals directly involved in terror acts have been granted open prison conditions or even freed from detention.

The report also says the

Palestinian Authority is not doing enough to prevent infiltration into Israel. Several clauses in the report note the abuse of VIP status by the Palestinian Authority, stating VIPs and security men illegally carry arms in Israel. It also accuses some Palestinian Authority VIPs of smuggling into Israel Palestinians prevented from crossing the Green Line, including wanted criminals, and arms.

Shohar's report says 10,000 Palestinian police, some of them armed, have not received Israeli authorization as required, and that senior PA officials have participat-

ed in incitement and protests against Israel's paving of bypass roads.

In eastern Jerusalem, there have been attempts by the Palestinian Authority to solidify its presence and standing, including the use of illegal security activities.

The report notes that some 30,000 visitors to the autonomous areas have not been asked to leave, even though their permits have expired.

The report opens with clauses relating to the recent riots, saying that the Palestinian leadership heated up the situation and "incited the crisis at the end of" (Continued on Page 4)

Survey: Majority favors TA over J'lem as capital

EVELYN GORDON

A new survey has found that a slight majority of Israelis would support moving Israel's capital from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, MK Ophir Pines (Labor) said at the opening meeting of the Knesset's caucus for Jerusalem yesterday.

Pines, who co-chairs the caucus along with Reuven Rivlin (Likud), said he learned of the survey - which is to be published in *Ma'ariv* later this week - when someone from the paper called to ask him for a reaction. He said the reporter refused to give him the exact figures, telling him only that the results were "very close," but with a slight majority favoring moving the capital.

"This is very worrying," Pines said, adding that such a finding shows the need for improving the economic and social conditions in Jerusalem. This will be the group's main focus, as it does not want

to become involved in political issues on which its 18 members might be divided.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert told the caucus that he primarily wants its assistance in two areas. First, he said, is the effort to combat "the organized campaign the media is waging" to make Jerusalem's plight look worse than it is, and therefore make the city look more unattractive. For instance, he said, the media likes to talk about the flight of the secular population in light of the city's increasing "haredization," but never mentions that haredim are leaving the city at an identical rate, in terms of their percentage of the population.

Secondly, he said, Jerusalem is the most poorly

treated city in Israel in terms of government benefits, despite the fact that the Basic Law: Jerusalem the Capital obligates the government to give the city preferential treatment.

Since several members of the caucus also sit on the Knesset Finance Committee, Pines suggested that these MKs sit with the city manager to figure out what they can do to help the city with respect to the 1997 budget. The group also decided to submit a bill to make Jerusalem a free-trade zone like Eilat.

"I don't recommend that the caucus get involved in political arguments," he said. "However, I think it must be based on the premise that Jerusalem is not only Israel's capital, but Israel's undivided capital, and the capital of Israel only."

Treasury bought same property twice

THE Treasury bought the same plot of land twice because it has no inventory of state-owned properties. Treasury officials admitted to the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday.

It emerged that the Treasury had bought a plot from the city of Rehovot once in 1959 and once in 1988.

The Treasury is still negotiating with the municipality in an attempt to get a refund for the sec-

ond purchase, and has said it will sue if necessary.

When committee MKs demanded to know how the Treasury could have bought a building it already owned, Gabi Shohat, who is in charge of government housing for the Treasury and Deputy Accountant-General Yoel Ophir said they do not have a complete inventory of government-owned property.

"According to Shohat, the Treasury inventory contains only property owned by government ministries. It does not include other government properties such as hospitals, prisons, army installations and land owned by the railroad.

Full Story, Page 8

An (Israeli) tree grows in Brooklyn

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

FOR decades, Americans have been encouraged to plant trees in Israel. Kibbutz Kfar Haruv is aiming for the reverse.

The Golan kibbutz is trying to break in to the American market with Jerusalem pines, selling trees that are one to three years old as a "gift from the Holy Land."

"This is one of a line of products geared for the year 2000," said Joel Sheinfeld, the head of public relations for Kfar Haruv.

The Jerusalem pines (*pinus halepensis*) are grown in California from seeds the kibbutz collects from the forests around Jerusalem. Some 5,000 trees are ready for sale this year, Sheinfeld

said, adding that the Jewish National Fund has approved the project.

It took several years for the kibbutz to get permission for the project from the US Department of Agriculture, which usually bars or severely limits the entry of agricultural products.

"There is a two-year quarantine on live trees," said Sheinfeld, who was in the US on a marketing trip.

However, the seeds can enter the US immediately with a US government-approved health certificate.

The first trees were shipped to

American customers on October 18.

"Some guy in New Jersey ordered 40 trees for his daughter's bat mitzva," Sheinfeld said.

The trees, which retail for \$10 each, have a shelf-life of 2 to 4 weeks when packaged in a plastic tube that the kibbutz calls a "unique mini-greenhouse."

"If Americans go for this," Sheinfeld said, "Kfar Haruv can build another kibbutz."

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Masked Hamas activists, holding Islamic flags and posters of their martyrs, aim their imitation sub-machine guns in the air yesterday. Thousands of students at Nablus's An-Najah University gathered for a rally to honor Palestinians killed on the Temple Mount in clashes with IDF security forces last September. (Reuters)

Border Police chief admits increase in violent incidents involving Arabs

BORDER Police Commander Yisrael Sadan admitted yesterday that there has been an increase in the number of incidents of violence against Arabs by border policemen. Sadan addressed the Knesset Interior Committee in a special session which discussed the incident in which two border policemen were filmed beating and humiliating six Arabs near Jerusalem. He said this case was not the only one, or even the most serious, but just the only case caught on film. Sadan promised the policemen would be brought to justice. He said 237 complaints had been filed against border policemen this year. Without trying to justify the incident, Sadan described the difficult work of the border policemen who have to deal with thousands of Palestinians who try to enter Israel illegally.

There is a certain increase in the scope of violence, about 20% between January and October 1996 compared to the same period last year," Sadan said. "The increase is mainly stems from the friction at crossings between Judea and Samaria and Israel or in the areas around the crossings. This mainly falls on those same units dealing with the sealing of Jerusalem, along the seam areas and particularly the central area which is the point at which the bulk of attempted entries by Palestinians take place." He noted that in many cases the border policemen feel frustrated and helpless. He denounced the violence, saying that such frustration could not justify it. Sadan said the Border Police is carrying out educational programs.

He called for an increase in the number of career policemen serving in these units, instead of border policemen who are serving as part of their mandatory military service. He said older, more mature border policemen who depend on their salaries as a regular income would improve the quality of the units, and dramatically bring down the violence. Committee chairman Sallah Tarif (Labor) asked whether the change in government could be responsible for creating an atmosphere in which the policemen did not restrain themselves. Sadan rejected the possibility out of hand, and said there had been no dramatic increase in brutality since the elections. He stressed that the Border Police is not working for a particular government, but for the state.

He said the increase had been felt particularly following the wave of bombings in February-March. Eran Shindar, the head of the Justice Ministry's police investigations unit, also said that there had been an increase in complaints of police brutality, particularly at check points around Jerusalem. He also noted there are a number of serious complaints of harassment and humiliation not involving physical violence. Shindar added that there is a problem of disorganized reports, and some files are closed for lack of a proper complaint. He said often the complainant does not want to cooperate with a police investigation. He said about a quarter of the cases cannot be fully investigated, and an additional 30 percent of files are closed for some reason.

Hebron resident: Police beat my wife after forcing her to strip

JON IMMANUEL

MORE than 20 policemen raiding a house in Hebron to search for arms on Monday morning ordered a woman to strip naked in her bedroom in front of a policewoman who then beat her, her husband said yesterday. A policeman who entered the room while she was naked ordered the beating to continue, the husband added. Police spokesman, Boaz Goldberg, denied the accusation of humiliating the woman, who was three months pregnant, and her husband. Police had raided the apartment near the Abu Snehah quarter because they had received reports of weapons being stored there, he said. Goldberg did not deny that the policewoman may have ordered the wife to strip, but described the beating and male intrusion into her bedroom as "one big lie."

Humiliation by border police of illegal Palestinian workers. In Hebron, which is so conservative and religious, this could have ended in murder." The Abu Snehah neighborhood overlooks the Jewish quarter and security forces, who have been arresting suspected Islamic radicals and searching for illegal weapons, are particularly concerned by the security problem posed from there. Goldberg said they found two non-lethal stun grenades, gun clips, and several bullets, possibly from an Uzi automatic, in the house. However, Issa Abu Mayyaleh, 37, who lived there with his wife Ataf, 30, and seven children (five of whom were at school at the time of the raid), is a policeman in Force 17, one of the Palestinian security services. According to the regulations, he is entitled to carry

a weapon on duty, but he is not allowed to keep guns or ammunition at home in Hebron. "The grenades are not regulation weaponry," Goldberg said. "The grenades were found by my son-in-law who brought them to me because I am a policeman," Abu Mayyaleh said. He said he was also surprised to hear the police take responsibility as the men who entered "wore army uniforms and brown berets." His brother, also a Force 17 member, was arrested, but Abu Mayyaleh was allowed to accompany his wife to hospital. Goldberg said the police allowed her to go, accompanied by her husband, because she complained of pain, but he denied this was caused by beating. Asked why Abu Mayyaleh was not arrested, Goldberg said, "We ordered him to report to the police, but he has not come yet."

Suspects indicted in drugs-for-sex scandal

NINE men from a city in the North were indicted yesterday in Nazareth District Court for supplying drugs to 15- and 16-year-old girls and having sex with them, in some cases against the girls' will. The court decided to hold the trial of the nine, aged 18-27, behind closed doors. Judge Haim Asa has also banned the publication of the suspects' names. As the accused were brought into the court to have their remains extended, dozens of family members went wild in the courtroom, breaking a few windows. Police reinforcements were brought in to restore order and two people were arrested. Prosecutor Mirit Stern said that in the course of about a year the accused used marijuana, hashish and Ecstasy pills with the girls, and sometimes had sex with them during or after the drug use. She said that the sex was occasionally consensual but sometimes not, and even when the girls consented, it was often while they were drugged, or when it was made clear to them

that if they did not agree, their drug supply would be cut off. The indictment against one of the suspects states that after having sex with one of the girls against her will for the first time, he had sex with her daily for an entire month in exchange for drugs. The first encounter between the two occurred after he took the girl home from school to his house and after using drugs and having sex with her against her will, returned her to school while she was still high. He, along with another suspect, is accused of rape and drug use. The other suspects are charged with using dangerous drugs, drug possession, drug dealing, and forcing a minor into drug use. Two of the nine suspects are accused of statutory rape. The drug and sex parties the accused took part in were held in their homes and in public places, including a forest near where they live. In one instance, the girls smoked dope with some of the accused in a school in their neighborhood. (Itim)

New suspects arrested in murder of Jerusalem beggar

BILL HUTMAN

TWO Jerusalem youths serving time for the brutal murder of a city beggar may be cleared, following the arrest of three suspects in the case, which raises serious questions about police methods of obtaining and relying on confessions. Yesterday the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court lifted a publication ban on the recent arrests of Alexander Tomkonogov, 19, of Jerusalem, Rafael Davidov, 20, of Ashkelon, and Bolshakhanov Gameda, 20, of Beit Shemesh, and other details of the renewed investigation. Elazar Bengaiev, 18, and a 17-year-old were convicted for the 1994 murder of Shalom Cohen in his Jerusalem apartment, after confessing to the crime. According to

the confessions, they said they had robbed and murdered Cohen, who was believed to have large sums of money in his house. Cohen, a well-known beggar, was murdered with a sharp object. Bengaiev was given a life sentence for the murder, while the minor received 15 years. The parents of the minor provided the information that led to the recent arrests. The new suspects, who were remanded yesterday for between six and 10 days, were friends of the youths convicted. The police spokesman, in a statement, said two of the suspects confessed to and reenacted the murder, and incriminated the third suspect.

"The investigation is continuing," and it remains unclear if the arrests will lead to the release of either of the teenagers convicted, the spokesman said. Both the minor and Bengaiev told the court during their trial that they were coerced into signing the confessions. "If the new evidence uncovered turns out to be true, it will clearly show that we were right from the beginning when we argued they were coerced into signing confessions, being kept awake for hours, and threatened," said attorney Yair Golan, who represents Bengaiev. Golan, and Michael Horowitz, who represents the minor, this week appealed the convictions to

the Supreme Court, with hearings set for next month. Golan said he hoped to hear from the District Attorney's Office beforehand that the charges were being dismissed. Attorney Eli Abarbanel, of the District Attorney's Office, said he had informed the judges in 1994 that Bengaiev's confession was shaky, because it didn't fit with evidence found in the Derech Beit Lehem apartment. The minor, however, confessed to the murder in a taped phone conversation he made to his girlfriend, and only afterwards in a statement to investigators. He and Bengaiev lived across the hall from Cohen, and in their confessions said they had originally just planned to rob him.

High Court throws out Kleiner's Hebron petition

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice threw out a petition by MK Michael Kleiner (Geshar) yesterday against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to initial the Hebron agreement before bringing it to the cabinet, and sharply criticized Kleiner for going to court without first trying to use his influence as an MK in the Knesset. In response, Kleiner submitted a bill to the Knesset yesterday which would require the government to update the Knesset on the progress of international negotiations once a month, hold a Knesset discussion on the finished agreement before initialing it, and bring it to the Knesset for ratification after initialing it. Kleiner had argued that while the cabinet authorized Netanyahu, Foreign Minister David Levy and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to negotiate the agreement, initialing it would exceed their mandate, and would unfairly limit the cabinet's ability to make

changes in the agreement later. However, Justices Elihu Mazza, Ya'acov Kedmi and Ya'acov Terkel jumped on him for not having made any effort to solve the problem before going to court. "You sent one letter to the prime minister on November 16 - which was Shabbat - and filed the petition on November 17. Is this the way to act?" demanded Mazza. "Did [the ministers] take any action in the cabinet? Did the petitioner take any action in the Knesset? This is a very strange system: If a minister has a complaint against the government, he sends an MK to petition the High Court." The Knesset, he added, is the proper forum for criticism of the government; that is what it exists for. Kleiner's attorney, Ilan Bombach, said Kleiner learned only a few days ago of the plan to initial the agreement before bringing it to the cabinet, and was afraid to wait because the negotiations could end any day. However, the justices said the petition also appeared to be baseless on its merits, since initialing does not prevent the cabinet from rejecting the agreement if it pleases. "What international agreement is handed any other way?" Mazza asked. "It seems to me that you have already wasted five times as much of our time as this petition deserves," Mazza finally said in exasperation. "Do you still insist on our giving a ruling?" In light of this clear hint, Kleiner withdrew the petition. "It is a pity that the High Court, which has seen fit to intervene in so many things, did not see fit to intervene in such a fundamental matter - as enabling the cabinet to discuss the agreement [seriously]," Kleiner said afterwards. "To dis-

miss it when it is already initialed, when any change will mean a

blow-up with America, with the Palestinians, with the Arabs... This is the way to hold a serious discussion?"

Budget cuts

THIS table is based on the current NIS 4.9 billion budget cut being debated in the Knesset. The Treasury and Prime Minister's Office do not yet know where any additional cuts will fall. Treasury budget head Ran Kroll said last month an extra cut would be needed proportionately between all the ministries. However, a senior Treasury official said yesterday it would be impossible for technical reasons to implement the cuts equally and it is inevitable that there will be slight variations.

-Welfare allowances	850
-Ministry of Defense	825
-Ministry of Education	500
-Ministry of Finance	400
-Ministry of Housing	292
-Ministry of Industry and Trade	259
-Rescinding of Veteran Citizens' Law	235
-Ministry of Internal Security	160
-Ministry of Interior, local government	145
-Higher education	80
-The Public Works Department	40
-Ministry of Foreign Affairs	36
-Ministry of Religious Affairs	25
-Ministry of Absorption	25
-Ministry of Agriculture	25
-Ministry of Transportation	25
-Ministry of Communication	18
-Ministry of Tourism	15
-Ministry of Science	11
-Prime Minister's Office	10
-Ministry of Justice	10
-Ministry of Energy	7
-Israel Lands Administration	5
-Ministry of Environment	5

-Compiled by David Harris

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem mourns the passing of **YVONNE MAIERSDORF** devoted supporter of the University for many years, and expresses its condolences to the family.

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother **SAM FRIDE** The funeral will take place on Friday, November 22, 1996 (11 Kislev) at 10:30 a.m. at the Herzliya Cemetery. Mourned by: His wife, Channa Fride-Durst His children, Ies, Esther and Eili, Sofie, Nattie His sisters, Chelily van Gelder, Fietje Lipinski and Nathan, Tula, Berno, Basia, Danny, Rikky, Karen, Avillor, Ies-Lidy and children, Hans-Lea and children Shiva at 30 Heleni Hamalka, Herzliya Pituah (near Accadia Hotel).

PEOPLE come in different shapes and sizes ...the long and the short and the tall and they come with different talents and ambitions, and they come rich and poor and mostly in between. And some come, usually through no fault of their own, disadvantaged. That's where we come in. For nearly fifty years, readers of The Jerusalem Post, both in Israel and in some 100 countries around the world have been sending money to help those less fortunate. The Forsake-Me-Not fund, together with social workers and volunteers in the field, use your donations to help old folks living in distressed circumstances. With your help we've been able to alleviate suffering and provide a little hope. Help us to help people by sending a contribution today to: **"FORSAKE ME NOT"** The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000, Israel. Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 20 East 56th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022, U.S.A. Together, we shall overcome.

Vertical text on the left margin: 3, CZ loo mil East of T hel Co n z at s de pl v in on E ce, H S en e, F b w ir y, w t e r, a E, t t c r e p l, p l, p v, o r b f, i n c t e w b, h u j v, W a c e m, i n R O, u r s e r o n i f i c K, P R I K, J e n u, S i n g, (m i r, 11,7, F I H, 175, s o m e, M O J, D A Y, (m i n, 25,7, W E E, f o r, 1, w o r d, F O L, 444, d i t t o, M O J, f o r, 1, w o r d, R a t e, D E A, J e n u, b e l o w, T h u, T e l, n o o n, a n d, F o r, 02-5, S h e r, B e d, P O, T, C, H O L, 3 n d, J, J e r u, s a l e m, 1, G e o r, 6919, T H E, t e r, - b a t h, 02-26, O W N, w e e k, t e r e w, 07-83

Disabled veteran sets himself alight opposite Defense Ministry

YOSEF Benvenisti, a disabled IDF veteran who is around 60 years old, set himself alight opposite the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv yesterday, charging that he had not received what the ministry owed him.

Benvenisti, a Haifa resident, was recovering from the suicide attempt at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital last night, with serious burns covering his body.

The Defense Ministry, which pays him a NIS 4,500 monthly disability allowance, said that this was not his first suicide attempt.

Benvenisti, who has a 32 percent disability, and his daughter Orit went to the Defense Ministry yesterday to request assistance to

RAINE MARCUS and Itim

purchase a car, using his disability rights. Orit had entered one of the offices, while her father stayed outside.

Without warning, Benvenisti took out a bottle containing flammable material and set himself on fire.

Witnesses, who called Magen David Adom and police, said Benvenisti ran down the street while on fire and passers-by extinguished the flames, before an ambulance arrived and transported him to Ichilov.

Orit complained bitterly that her

father had given his life to the army, which had not awarded him his full disability rights.

"He is unable to walk, and after 34 years in the IDF, the Defense Ministry is ignoring him," she said after the incident.

The Defense Ministry said that Benvenisti had first filed a claim in 1957 for a head and a foot injury, which were recognized as a 10% permanent disability.

Over the years, he filed a number of other complaints, some of which were rejected as having no connection to his injury.

Others were accepted, and by 1993 he had a 32% disability, 20% of which was for mental disability.

MKs mark International Children's Rights Day

A day after the Knesset dedicated committee meetings and plenum discussions to violence against women, the House marked International Children's Rights Day with several activities.

Members of the Knesset Caucus for Children's Rights yesterday met with their counterparts from the German Bundestag to hear about some of its activities. MK Anat Maor (Meretz) and Dr. Philip Veerman, of the Israeli office of Defense for Children International, initiated the meeting.

The German parliamentarians said their activities focus on three fields: educating toward nonviolence; dealing with the media, including the advantages and dangers of the Internet; and involving children in political decision-making.

LIAT COLLINS

Maor noted that 12 bills on children's rights are being submitted in the Knesset. She said the committee here is concentrating on the problems of poverty and children at risk; sexual exploitation; the children in certain sectors, including Arabs, new immigrants and the disabled; protecting children's rights in fields such as forced hospitalization; and employment conditions.

Maor called on the German parliamentarians to work to strengthen democracy, prevent antisemitism and racism.

Veerman said the group is acting to create an international parliamentary lobby for children's rights.

International Children's Rights

Day marks the anniversary of a UN covenant created in 1989 to further children's rights in economic, social, cultural, health and educational fields. Israel signed the covenant in 1991 but, Maor said, "the existence of 329,000 poor children in Israel is a denial of its obligations towards children expressed in the covenant."

The Knesset Education Committee, chaired by Emanuel Zissman (Third Way), discussed prostitution among minors. Calling the phenomenon "shocking," Zissman called for greater preventive and punitive measures, including more attention in the educational system to the problem of dropouts; more centers for needy children; and greater police action against people having sex with minors or spreading child pornography.



A dog sniffs luggage at Ben-Gurion Airport, where a new drug detection unit, including six dogs, was officially launched yesterday. The dogs have already discovered two drug smugglers this past week. (Yisrael Meilovitz)

New canine drug detection unit begins work at B-G Airport

CUSTOMS and VAT authorities officially launched their new drug detection unit at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday. Six dogs and their handlers, specially trained in the USA, will work full time to help crack down on smugglers.

RAINE MARCUS

arrivals lounge are categorized as "passive" canines. They are taken around the lounge, between suitcases and passengers, and if they detect varieties of drugs hidden on persons or luggage, simply sit near their target. They are praised and given a prize by their handlers.

The "active" dogs are situated in the cargo department and run wild barking if they detect drugs hidden in containers.

The dogs have already discovered two drug smugglers this past week.

The unit was launched by new Customs and VAT chief Motti Ayalon and authorities are now testing electronic equipment, including X-ray machines for detecting both drugs and explosives.

Up until now police ran a small unit of trained dogs, but now, as in other countries such as the UK, the customs authorities will manage their own division, which will work in cooperation with the police.

So far six dogs, three of them golden retrievers, are being used both in the arrivals lounge and in the cargo department. Those used for sniffing out narcotics in the

Various companies from the US and Europe are competing to sell their hi-tech equipment to authorities, and such sophisticated machines, which will cost millions of dollars, are presently being experimented with. Customs authorities are also working on the development of detection devices for use in the cargo department, to discover the smuggling of drugs and even explosives in containers from abroad.

Court demands reason for state's request to bring woman, children back from US

THE High Court of Justice gave the state 45 days this week to justify its attempts to get the US authorities to send a woman and her three children back to Israel.

EVELYN GORDON

The woman, Elsa Nimberger, met and married her Israeli husband, Zvi, in New York, where they were both working in a hospital. The family came to Israel in February 1995 - according to Elsa, for a visit, according to Zvi, to live.

A few days later, the couple quarreled, and Elsa tried to take her children back to the US. Zvi got an order from a rabbinical court preventing her from leaving the country, but this was canceled nine months later after Elsa petitioned the High Court.

Zvi then filed a custody suit against Elsa in the Jerusalem District Court, which ended in her getting custody while he got visiting rights. As part of this settle-

ment, the district court canceled another order preventing Elsa from leaving the country, and she returned to New York with the children in January 1996.

In February, Zvi asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to ask the American authorities to return the children. Ben-Yair did so in July, saying Elsa's return to the US had deprived Zvi of his visiting rights, and therefore violated the Hague Convention on international kidnappings of children. This convention states that both parents must consent before relocating the children.

At the time of the settlement in the Jerusalem District Court, Ben-Yair argued, the couple's place of residence was Israel. Therefore, Elsa's unilateral move to the US constituted kidnapping.

Elsa then petitioned the High

Court to get Ben-Yair to withdraw his request to the American authorities.

Elsa said the family originally came to Israel only for two weeks, to visit Zvi's father. Her attorney, Ron Weinstock, noted that she did not quit her job, sell her apartment or make any of the other preparations one would normally make if one were planning a move. The family even bought round-trip tickets.

The fact that Elsa was forced to stay here for almost a year against her will by court orders obtained by Zvi does not mean she ever consented to making Israel her place of residence, he said, and therefore her return to New York does not make her a kidnapper. She was merely following the couple's original plans, he argued; it was Zvi's choice to move to

Israel and waive his visiting rights.

Zvi's claim is that the couple had intended to move to Israel, but Elsa got cold feet after they arrived. Ben-Yair said the district court settlement, which gave Zvi the right to visit the children twice a week, supports the theory that the couple was living in Israel at the time.

At a hearing earlier this week, however, Justices Aharon Barak, Mishael Cheshin and Dalia Dorner appeared to find Elsa's version of events more believable. If the couple had really intended to move here, they said, how was it possible to explain the round-trip tickets, which were only for a two-week stay?

They therefore issued the show-cause order, which shifts the burden of proof to the state. The final hearing will be in about two months.

Benizri seeks funds to reduce geriatric institution waiting lists

JUDY SIEGEL

DEPUTY Health Minister Shlomo Benizri has asked Finance Minister Dan Meridor to allocate an additional NIS 52.5 million to eliminate the waiting list for entrance to geriatric institutions.

At present, 2,500 people are on the waiting list, and 300 more are added each year. The extra funds would eliminate the list over the next three years.

In a meeting Tuesday, Benizri said the Health Ministry currently pays for 7,000 geriatric beds in public and private institutions, but because of the lack of budget, another 2,500 are waiting at home, often in very difficult conditions or getting inadequate care.

Meridor said he was aware of the importance of finding an honorable and quick solution to the problem, and he promised to examine it carefully with an aim to accede to his request.

Benizri said he intends to examine the costs of hospitalization and try to reduce expenses, while at the same time preserving the level of services.

That way, he said, more patients can be treated for the same amount of money.

Woman almost dies from bee sting treatment

JUDY SIEGEL

A 52-YEAR-OLD kibbutznik who submitted to bee stings in an effort to relieve her shoulder pains nearly died recently after going into anaphylactic shock from the stings. Doctors at Kupat Holim Clalit's Lin Clinic in Haifa gave her emergency treatment and saved her life.

The woman, a member of a kibbutz in the North, went to a complementary medicine practitioner who said bee stings would relieve her pain. After the 12th sting, an allergy appeared that caused a rash and shortness of breath.

Dr. David Nusam, a senior Lin allergy expert, said that while complementary medicine could be helpful, patients should be aware of the fact that they can also be dangerous and even life-threatening "if they are carried out in an irresponsible manner."

The woman will have to undergo immunotherapy at the Lin clinic to ensure that she doesn't suffer a serious reaction to bee stings in the future. If she hadn't been exposed to so much bee allergen at once, the "accident" would not have happened and she would not have to be careful in the future, he said.

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Too familiar to be exciting

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

CLICHES may be annoying, but they often contain more than a grain of truth. The cliché which comes to mind when surveying the fashion industry in Israel and abroad is that familiarity breeds contempt. Almost everywhere one goes in the rag trade, people are complaining that business is bad. And it's no surprise — there is so little that is new and exciting.

Designers seem to have run out of ideas. Retro, which started out as a cute gimmick, is here to stay, zig-zagging backwards and forwards from the flapper era, with so much déjà vu that one begins to suspect that designers have been replaced by parapsychologists.

At a time when pundits are forecasting a period of economic austerity, even the most fashion-conscious women think twice before forking out for a new outfit. Does she really need it? Does her wardrobe already contain similar garments, and if so, are they in today's fashion colors? If the answers are No, Yes, Yes, she's not going to buy, even when the clothes are immaculately crafted such as, for instance, those bearing the Erreuno label which have joined the ever-growing list of high-fashion imports.

High fashion never comes cheap, and Erreuno, sold exclu-



Erreuno, sold exclusively at Silhouette boutiques here, has a price range between NIS 4,000 and NIS 6,000.

treasures which are just perfect. One of the most important winter garments will be the frock coat, which after a long absence from the limelight is once again in the forefront.

Glass in food: Yeah, so what?

CAVEAT EMPTOR!
RUTHIE BLUM

QUESTION: What's worse than finding a worm in your apple? Answer: Finding half a worm. Question: What's worse than finding half a worm in your apple? Answer: Finding a piece of broken glass in your can of Chinese food.

Question: What's worse than finding glass in your Chinese food? Answer: Being ignored by the producers of that food, after you submit a complaint.

Most consumers don't give too much thought to the food they buy at the supermarket other than its taste and price. Unless it has foreign objects floating around in it, particularly if the objects are dangerous.

R.R. was invited to partake of a meal at a friend's house. While munching away at a "delicious" mouthful of canned Chinese vegetables, R.R. almost choked herself into the hospital. Among the other marinated delicacies was a shard of glass. Wasting no time, R.R. sent a letter of complaint to the Metzuyan Mazon company in Rosh Ha'ayin. In the letter, which she sent by registered mail, she enclosed the shard as evidence. This was in July. No response, either by telephone or by mail, was forthcoming.

Along the same lines, when S.R. opened a container of Strauss yoghurt, he was met with the unpleasant sight of a dead worm. Unlike R.R., he has not yet sent the object of his "distaste" to the company. Hopefully, he will not be ignored when he does. But what is it we consumers can do when our packaged food makes us question what other substances we may be ingesting without being aware of it?

The Health Ministry spokesman's office suggests the following: The first step is to do what R.R. did. Sending a letter of complaint without the "evidence" is virtually a waste of time. Without proof that some-

thing was wrong with a food product, there is little anyone can do. Furthermore, according to a ministry spokeswoman, some people make false claims in this area, in hope of being rewarded with "compensation" packages from certain companies.

If the first step produces no results, the next step is to phone the regional food-control department of the health office in your area to complain both about the food product, and about the company's attitude towards it. The health office can run tests on food which may be contaminated in some way (as in the case of the yoghurt), or packaged in a dangerous way (as, perhaps, in the case of the Chinese food).

The following is a list of the health offices you can contact if the need should arise: Jerusalem (02) 531-4811; Tel Aviv (03) 563-4848; Haifa (04) 761-9777; Nazareth (06) 5730301; Ramle (08) 922-1263; Beersheba (07) 646-4711; Tiberias (06) 7918167 or 7918190; Netanya (09) 335052; Acre (04) 991-5901 or 9915902; Afeka (06) 5920167; Petah Tikva (03) 931-6221; Safed (06) 9709857; Rehovot/Rishon LeZion (08) 946-89945; Hadera (06) 3231145 or 341381.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Beaujolais Nouveau: Tonight we'll drink to that

DANIEL ROGOV

EVERY year, on the third Thursday of November, 50 million French men, women and children anxiously await the arrival at their favorite bars and bistros of the wine known as Beaujolais Nouveau. Two weeks ago, when I wrote about this wine in the *Jerusalem Post Magazine*, I observed, sadly that we Israelis would have to wait a few weeks longer than most Frenchmen to drink the wine of the 1996 harvest.

To my great surprise and pleasure, I was wrong, and several local importers have succeeded in making arrangements that will allow Tel Avivians, Jerusalemites and Haifaites to sample the wine tonight, at precisely the same hour that millions of other bottles will be opened in Paris, Tokyo, San Francisco and London.

Beaujolais Nouveau, which is made from Gamay grapes that were harvested barely eight weeks ago, is a wine with neither pretensions nor complexity. In fact, so frivolous is the wine that nobody takes it with even the least bit of seriousness. The truth is, however, that few wines offer greater pleasure, and the ritual of gathering together in bars, restaurants and wine stores to taste it is one of the most delightful events of any harvest year.

Made by the process known as carbonic maceration, which means that the whole bunches of grapes were allowed to ferment in sealed containers with carbon-dioxide gas, this is a wine with lots of fruit and color and very little of the tan-

nins that make some young wines hard and bitter. The light, crisp, fresh Nouveau Beaujolais is so easy to drink that many consider it at its best when served chilled and drunk not in small sips but in large mouthfuls.

As this writing, no one outside of the wineries of France has even the vaguest hint of what the 1996 wine will taste like. We do know that in mid-September the vines in the major Beaujolais Nouveau producing areas were in excellent condition; winemakers anticipate about the same quantity of wine as they had last year and are hoping that the quality will be quite high. One winemaker in France assured me in a telephone conversation (swearing on "his mother's eyes") that "the 1996 wine has a light, lively and unusually attractive red color, a clean and fresh taste, and a remarkable level of fruitiness."

Whether his prediction will prove fully accurate remains to be seen. Until tonight, however, speculation on just how high that quality will be, will be a topic of discussion of every major city in the world. Regardless of those speculations one can be quite certain that tonight, as the wine makes its first appearance, men and women who enjoy the combination of wine and sociability will once again be standing in line, waiting more or less patiently until the first glass is placed in front of them.

There are some who say the wine is overpriced and that the race to

drink it on the first day of its appearance has been overly commercialized. Those people are probably right, but they are missing the point, for drinking this delightful wine is as much a social and aesthetic ritual as it is an exercise in pure fun.

As in France, from the simplest bars to the most prestigious restaurants, we Israelis will wait more or less patiently until the glasses are filled, and then thirstily gulp down a first glass. Second, third and fourth glasses will then be ordered, all accompanied by loud discussions about the quality of the wine, comparing this year's wine to last, reminiscing about how great the wine of 1985 was, and dreaming about how truly great the wine of next year will be.

Among the wines scheduled to debut tonight are the Beaujolais Nouveau of George DuBoeuf and the Beaujolais Villages Nouveau of Joseph Drouhin — both of whom are among the best and most respected wine negotiators of the Beaujolais region. Also appearing tonight will be the Beaujolais Nouveau of Reine Pedaque.

Celebrations will start at about midnight in Tel Aviv at Yo'ezzer Wine Bar, the winestore of Slovatik, and restaurants including Dixie, Cafe Rose, Marie Antoinette, Moul Yam and Picasso.

In Givatayim, a special midnight tasting will take place at Special Reserve, the winestore of Natfali. Jerusalemites will find celebrations at Avi Ben, the Nahalat Shiva wine store, and in Haifa the late-

night festivities will take place at Special Reserve, the wine store adjoining the Dan Carmel Hotel, and at the Ackerman wine store on Rehov Hananel.

After the first-night celebrations are over, the wines will be available at many wine shops. The wine of DuBoeuf and Drouhin are expected to sell for about NIS 55 each; that of Reine Pedaque for about NIS 49. The wine of Domaine Longere, which will cost NIS 42.50 per bottle will be sold exclusively at Tirosh Auction house in Herzliya Pituah during special sales to be held from 11 a.m. to about 5 p.m. on the 29th and 30th of the month. Keep in mind that most stores offer discounts for purchases of full cases or more.

GEORGES DUBOEU

Le Beaujolais nouveau est arrivé!

Millenium bug approaches

SOME European firms are still unaware they could face oblivion because of the millennium bug, which is set to cause mayhem in some computers at midnight on December 31, 1999, business leaders told a conference earlier this month.

The problem could also hit some computers in Israel. As clocks tick past the start of the new millennium, many computers across the world will either crash or start pumping out wrong data. Despite widespread publicity about the threat, many companies have failed to take action soon enough and many could find their systems crashing — possibly triggering a company collapse.

By the end of 1999, more than 50 percent of information technology (IT) firms will have systems producing erroneous results because of the 2000 issue," Gartner Group analyst Peter Sondergaard told the conference.

The problem stems from shortcuts taken by programmers in the '70s and '80s who tried to save computer memory by abbreviating dates to the last two digits. This will work fine until the end of the 20th century, but computers will read the year 2000 as 00, sparking possibly fatal errors. Scouring through millions of lines of computers' software code to solve the problem will take a massive army of computer programmers.

European IT leaders at the conference expressed concern at the worldwide threat posed by the bug, which many companies are only just beginning to wake up to. "We have to raise the profile [of the problem] to make sure all industries are aware of it," Lucio Stanca, general manager of IBM said.

Stanca was on a panel with leaders of COMPAQ Computer Corp., French computer maker Groupe Bull, Germany's Siemens Nixdorf,

and German software giant SAPAG to discuss the impact of information technology in Europe. The conference was organized by US technology consultancy Gartner Group.

"This is a huge problem. Time is critical; when we get closer, demand for fixes will get huge and industry may not be able to handle it," Stanca said.

Stanca said that this would not include IBM's customers, telling the conference: "We have made this commitment that all our products will be enabled for the year 2000." Information technology experts fear that even though a huge amount of effort will be invested in curing this problem before 2000, many programs dating back to the 1970s are buried deep in computer systems and will resist discovery.

Some forecasters have said the problem could be serious enough not only to cause many corporate bankruptcies, but might even trigger a world economic depression.

The industry leaders said they would stand by their customers. "We have a duty to safeguard our customers, and all ours will be Year 2000 compliant. It is a huge investment, a huge task: we have 300 people working on this," said Jean Marie Descarpentrie, chairman and chief executive of Groupe Bull. Gerhard Schulmeyer, president and chief executive of Siemens Nixdorf, said his company would not abandon its customers, but added that it had to be a joint effort. Schulmeyer reminded the conference that a huge amount of computer time was also needed for companies to prepare for European economic and monetary union, set to go ahead on January 1, 1999.

"We are assuming it will happen. But we will take so many resources that other projects will fall by the wayside," Schulmeyer said. (Reuter)

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MEN'S DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKET - navy blue, new, pure wool, M&S, size 38 in. (97 cm), medium length, NIS 350. 02-566-6241.

MEN'S JACKETS - sizes 52 and 54, and pants, NIS 50 each. 02-991-7554.

CAMERA - Canon Sure-Shot M, new, never used, NIS 315. 02-586-2927, after 5 p.m.

BOOKSHELVES - NIS 250 W X 96 L wood, NIS 225; kerosene heater, Friedman, like new, NIS 125. 02-641-8370.

RED - spring base, English, 90x190, NIS 300 o.b.o. 02-651-1489. NS.

MEN'S PANTS - almost new, sizes 34-36, dark colors, NIS 30 each. 02-581-2850.

BABY CAR SEAT - Century, NIS 150. 02-671-3247.

RACCOON FUR JACKET - good condition, size S/M, NIS 350. Nancy, 02-624-9772.

AMERICAN HIGHER RISER - NIS 250. 02-566-9182. NS.

"LITTLE CARGO" PORTABLE SAFETY SEAT - for car or plane for infants/toddlers, packs flat to carry-on, NIS 90. 02-566-4925.

WINTER COAT - beige, fur lining and collar, 44 regular (US), excellent condition, NIS 300 o.b.o. 02-582-0024.

JACKET/WINDBREAKER - 100% down filling, light blue, Canadian-made, size 16, as new, NIS 100 o.b.o. 02-533-5902. evs.

RICO 35 MM CAMERA - good condition, with flash and case, NIS 100. 02-582-1157. NS.

TEACH YOURSELF RUSSIAN - phrase book and three cassettes, new, NIS 50. 02-566-1005.

BOOKS - about American Indian tribes, written by Indians, Franklin 1973, NIS 30 each. 02-582-2840.

SINGLE BED - complete with mattress, barely used, NIS 350. 02-561-7087.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS - ages 1-3, NIS 5 each; compact disc, Kenny Rogers, NIS 12; *Prevention* health magazines, NIS 3 each. 02-561-1240. NS.

2 GAMES FOR GAME GEAR - super columns and NBA Jam TE, NIS 40. 02-566-6890.

LADIES' 3-SPEED BIKE - light blue, excellent condition, size 26, South African, NIS 300. 02-533-5902. evs.

2 DENIM JUMPERS - ladies' size 18/20, new, NIS 50 each; Emka wall-mounted bathroom heater, NIS 40; 2 Indian skirts, NIS 45 each. 02-651-3654. NS.

2 STAND-UP FANS - one season old, 40 cm high, NIS 80 each. 02-623-6798.

VACUUM CLEANER - excellent condition, NIS 250. 050-358104.

TYPESETTER - NIS 75; electric typewriter, Brother, NIS 100 (needs new plug). 02-679-2537. NS.

MEN'S SHOES - black leather, size 45, elegant, new, NIS 80. 02-651-8543. NS.

INDIAN DRESS - 2-piece, medium, new, cream/black with gold beads, NIS 270. 02-586-1207. NS.

BMX BICYCLE - 20 in., excellent condition, NIS 200. 02-581-5416. NS.

SAMSONITE SUITCASE - large, 29x11x22 in., used once, perfect condition, NIS 350. 02-561-9710. NS.

STOVE TOP - 3 burners, NIS 250. 02-641-5142.

ELECTRONIC TYPEWRITER - 180 o.b.o. 02-586-4864. NS.

MANUAL TYPEWRITER - old, in good condition, free. 02-585-7213.

MINK STOLE - excellent condition, NIS 350. 02-563-9437. NS.

AMCOR PONY DISHWASHER - still working, NIS 50. 02-651-3136.

HEATER - 13 fins, model EDS, 3 heat levels, NIS 350 o.b.o. 02-676-5054. NS.

BABY STROLLER - excellent condition, NIS 300; Mothercare bouncing chair and head support cushion for newborn, NIS 50. 02-571-3247.

MEN'S RED WING WORK BOOTS - American size 10, new, never worn, NIS 325. 02-991-8535.

COLORFUL SQUINNED VEST - NIS 80; 2 long-line bras, new, NIS 40 each; bathroom scale, new, NIS 30. 02-651-8325. NS.

GAS HEATER - good condition, NIS 300. 02-563-3879.

WANTED

WOODEN DOLL'S HOUSE - new or second-hand. 09-582-078.

SADDLE AND SADDLE - English or Western, for small horse; also castron, brushing boots, etc. 07-991-4252.

COMPUTER MONITOR - SVGA or VGA, to purchase. 04-833-0764.

HYBRID BICYCLE - and file cabinet, to purchase. 04-833-0764.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - to establish an amateur orchestra, not too expensive. 03-672-6403.

VIDEOTAPE OF CHICAGO HOPE - on *Murder 1* from November 10/ 03-642-7844 and leave message, or 03-642-7218 evs.

PRINTER - very good condition. 02-586-6254 or 02-551-5628 (work).

PIANO - reasonable condition/price. 02-641-2546.

GUINEA PIG CAGE - good condition, 02-563-9668. NS.

ROCKING CHAIR/RECLINER/GLIDER - good condition, 02-563-4165. NS.

PARDESS HANNA OR NEARBY - lifts from Jerusalem need by car-less family visiting institutionalized child; flexible times, participation in expenses. 02-561-9363. NS.

DOG BASKET - for medium-sized dog, good condition. 02-566-9877.

CELLACQUA LITEN-FREE DIET INFO - recipes, shopping sources needed for visiting family. 02-566-5988.

REFRIGERATOR - badly needed by senior citizens' club. 02-581-1958, mornings or early evs.

GAME GEAR WITH GAMES - vacuum cleaner, girl's coat size 7. 02-993-1266.

BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY REVIEW - magazines from first issue on; archeological artifacts (legal of course). 02-653-6349.

BOOKCASE - either open shelves or enclosed. 02-678-9012.

PIANO - reasonable condition/price, for three little girls who want to learn. 02-641-2546.

BABY DRESSER - 02-993-2253.

COMPUTER - 276 or 376, in very good condition, with hard disk. 02-586-7916.

BABY CARRIAGE - good condition. 02-586-7032. NS.

RAIN SUIT/SLICKER - preferably jacket and pants, for 4-year-old boy. 02-641-8084.

VIOLIN - for unemployed adult, to raise his spirits while job hunting, to borrow or rent inexpensively. 02-651-9927. NS.

TV - 14", black and white or color, in good condition. 02-587-6265.

ROCKING CHAIR - comfortable. 02-652-4717.

AMFM CASSETTE - with counter, prefer small size. 02-563-8351.

MOUNTAIN BIKE - reasonably priced or as donation for yeshiva in the Gush area. 02-581-3549.

SMALL FRIDGE - for non-profit organization. Bracha, 02-623-6083.

PETS

PETS FOR PROTECTION AND AFFECTION - cats and dogs available at the JSPCA adoption day, tomorrow, 12 to 2:00 at the grounds of the National History Museum, Rehov Hamagid, Veterinarian on-site. Sorry the JSPCA cannot accept new pets at the event. In the event of rain, the campaign will be postponed. Details 02-585-1531.

KITTENS - beautiful, healthy, house-trained, some vaccinated, very friendly, free to good homes. 02-628-3521. NS.

GINGER CAT - neutered, and black-and-white spayed female, desperately seeking loving home, free. 02-535-5459.

2 BEAUTIFUL BUDGIES - big cage, accessories, NIS 120. 02-643-6372.

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- The text must be printed clearly in English and submitted on the coupon below.
- The following are NOT accepted: business offers; apartment sales; rentals or exchanges; car sales; job offers; situations wanted; solicitations for donations; offers of marriage or other personal relationships.
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Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

MESSAGE: _____

NO QUERIES PLEASE! If your ad was not published please resubmit coupon

Care for yourself - then for hubby



DEAR RUTHIE, My husband is very infirm and difficult for me to care for. I, too, am getting on in years, though I am in good health. The problem is that my husband refuses to let anyone else feed, bathe, or shave him. He feels uncomfortable having a stranger - even if the stranger is a registered nurse - perform these "intimate" tasks for him. Our situation is that we still live in our own home, as neither of us wishes to move into a home for the elderly. Luckily, we have the financial means to hire help. But, though I understand my husband's ill ease, I am too exhausted to do all of the things for him which I have been doing. How can I convince him to allow a private nurse to live with us?

Exhausted Elder
Ramat Hasharon

Dear EE,
Before you will be able to convince your husband to accept outside assistance, you must first convince yourself that hiring a private nurse does not constitute a shirk-

ing of your responsibilities. Your husband may not wish to have a "stranger" perform "intimate tasks" for him, but if you were to collapse from exhaustion as a result of having to perform the tasks yourself, he would then have no choice but to succumb. Instead of reaching the point at which circumstances such as these force him into compliance, it is possible for you to impose your will in advance. Obviously, imposing your will on this particular issue has been even more difficult for you than tending to your husband's physical needs. But now that the scales are tipping in the other direction, you will have to muster up the inner strength to believe that your needs are worth at least equal consideration. If you can manage to invest your mental energy in withstanding emotional pressure put on you by your husband, both you and your husband will emerge victorious. Furthermore, a private nurse will only be a "stranger" initially.

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM

Eventually, she (or he) can become a part of the family.

Dear Ruthie,
My granddaughter entered the army not long ago, and since then she has begun behaving in a way I find offensive. She brings boys home for the weekend, and they spend the night in her bedroom. I am upset with my son and daughter-in-law for allowing this, but especially peeved when they allow it in my presence. Last Shabbat, for example, when I was a guest at my son's house, my granddaughter had a boy over. They even had the gall to wake up late, and come to the table in a slovenly state of half-dress, just to eat in a hurry, and run off when they were done.

Should I have a talk with my granddaughter, or with my son? I think my daughter-in-law will see this as interference.

Grimacing Granny
Haifa
Dear Grimacing Gran,

I hate to break this to you, but having a talk with your son or with his daughter will not serve to alter the situation. Unless your purpose is to announce that you do not wish to be invited on a weekend during which your granddaughter plans on being present with a male escort in tow.

It is your prerogative to disapprove of your son and daughter-in-law's house rules regarding their daughter. It is your prerogative to stay away from their home when your granddaughter has a boy sleep over. But it is not in your power to change their mores.

Their manners, however, are a different story. If wolfing down a Shabbat meal and running off at its conclusion is behavior which offends you as a grandmother and as a guest, you certainly have the right to speak your mind. Just take into account that reprimands often have the opposite effect on those reprimanded than the reprimander originally intends.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il

In pursuit of 'parity democracy'

True democracy includes proper representation of women, according to a consultant on women's empowerment, Gail Lichtman writes



Abdela: It is quite interesting that Palestinian and Israeli women share the same problems.

PARITY democracy may sound like some kind of Eurospeak gobbledygook, but for Lesley Abdela these two words have become a powerful argument for advancing women.

"Usually, I don't like Eurospeak, but this is one phrase I have adopted because what it is saying is that unless women are roughly in equal numbers in the decision-making levels of the political process, a country is not a democracy. This is a very strong argument in Britain (where I am from), in Israel and in the world," she states.

Abdela, an internationally recognized consultant for the advancement and empowerment of women in public life, who recently spent a week in Israel as a guest of the British Council, brought this message to Jewish, Arab, Palestinian and Beduin women. She is a senior partner in her own equal-opportunities consultancy firm, founder of the UK All-Party 300 group (whose aim is to get more women elected to the British Parliament) and winner of the 1996 UK Woman of Europe Award.

In Nevah Shalom, Abdela was the keynote speaker at an international conference which included Israeli Arab and Jewish women as well as some 24 South African women leaders. In Beersheba, she conducted a political skills workshop for Beduin women. In Jerusalem, she led a discussion for a mainly Jewish audience on women in politics. In Haifa, she lectured on breaking the glass ceiling in the workplace, and in Nazareth, she conducted a workshop on empowerment for Israeli Arab women. In addition, she ran two workshops on lobbying skills for Palestinian women in Gaza and Ramallah.

Over the past three years, Abdela has trained both women and men for parity democracy in Ghana, India, Malta, Jordan, Egypt, Ukraine, Lithuania and Nigeria. But this was the first time she has ever done this in a developed country.

While this was not Abdela's first trip to Israel (she took a backpack vacation trip 18 years ago), it was the first time she really got to meet Israeli women and hear their views firsthand.

"I had the pleasure of meeting three of women MKs - Communications Minister Limor Livnat, MK Yael Dayan and MK Naomi Chazan, and lots of women movers and shakers. From the international press, you get the impression that the whole of Israel is of one particular political view - conservative, right wing. I never realized how many women there are working for coexistence and a peaceful outcome in this country."

The two workshops for Palestinian women added another

dimension to Abdela's visit. "It is quite interesting that Palestinian and Israeli women share the same problems. Both have a lot in common in terms of barriers and legislation, the attitudes of society towards women in politics, the problems of religious laws and attitudes, the ongoing military culture, etc."

"I understand that only 10% of the local councillors in Israel are women and only nine out of 120 Knesset members. There are only five women out of 88 on the Palestinian Council."

"Palestinian women want the legislation of the Palestinian Council to be gender sensitive, which means that women are included and the laws are what they want. So, they have come up with a marvelous idea [which will take place next March] to engage men in debate. They have divided legislation into five sectors and will be having a model parliament on each sector in which women elected by other women will take part in policy debates with top male opinion makers on policies women want."

"This is a good exercise in practical democracy. And it is the first time that I have ever heard of any country where this has been done. I am very excited and I think, if it works, we can use it as a model for other countries."

Abdela was also very excited about developing solidarity between Israeli and South African women. Sponsored by the New Israel Fund and Shatil, its support project for voluntary organizations, the event brought together Jewish and Arab activists from Israeli women's organizations with 24 of their South African counterparts.

"The South African women were sharing their experiences, after having gone through a very bitter conflict, on how they are rebuilding their society. South Africa is particularly

exciting today because no committee that is involved in dismantling apartheid and rebuilding society has any validity unless there are at least 25% women members. And many of the committees have 50%."

The New Israel Fund workshop in Beersheba for 40 young Beduin women was another eye opener. "What came out was that on top of the same issues that Arab and Jewish women in Israel and Palestinian women face, were the extra layers of it not being generally accepted for women to go out of the home for education or work."

"But in spite of this, these women are doing some amazing things. They are running some really good income-generating projects - weaving things at home. They even have put out a catalog and are selling not only in Israel but in other countries as well. Also they have set up a network for second-year women university students to help first-year students because there are only about 15 or 20 Beduin women in Israeli universities."

Abdela feels it is very important for these Beduin women, many of whom feel isolated in their struggle, to hear that other women have had to overcome the same forces. "I was actually telling them that not so long ago in Britain girls had to stay home and it was not considered the right thing to go to university. Women could only get a full Cambridge degree from about 1948. I don't think anybody's ever said to them that other societies have had some of the same things to face."

"The Palestinian women [are] so wise in carefully trying to piece together something positive out of an awful mess. The Israeli women [are] working to see if they can build bridges and change things. If only these groups were running things in this region. Imagine if the Knesset were 50% women MKs. I just think it would all be different."



Demonstrators fasten a banner earlier this week outside Texaco's Los Angeles refinery calling for a boycott of the company following its multi-million-dollar settlement of a race discrimination suit. The sign reads: 'Do not buy Texaco.'

Racism comes out of the closet in corporate America

AMERICANS have recently expressed shock and astonishment at allegations of overt racism inside the Texaco oil and Avis car-rental companies, and those who are amazed aren't black.

As sordid stories seep out that some Avis Rent-A-Car locations rebuffed prospective black customers for no good reason, and that senior Texaco officials derided African-American employees as "black jelly beans" and worse, many blacks are left with an "I told you so" feeling.

"This demonstrates that we aren't just paranoid about the country we live in," said Todd Boyd, associate professor of popular culture at the University of Southern California. "I didn't need the managers at Texaco to confirm that for me, but that's what they did."

Lawrence Otis Graham, whose White Plains, New York, consulting firm tracks the progress of minorities and women in corporate America, said he wished the cases at Texaco and Avis were aberrations. He doubts they are. "Many companies have no idea how bad a job they are doing," Graham said.

Charges of racism are nothing new for police and courts, but the Avis and Texaco cases gave

the public rare glimpses of how attitudes about race can collide with big business.

In the same way, videotaped evidence of Rodney King's beating in Los Angeles lent credence to long-time claims by minorities of widespread police brutality, Graham said. In Texaco and Avis cases will cement forever the image of racist corporate executives for many blacks, he added.

"Upper- and middle-class whites can cause the greatest harm because they have the power. They can keep corporate boardrooms all white, or exclude blacks from living in a neighborhood," said Joe Feagin, a University of Florida sociology professor who has researched America's race relations for 30 years.

Civil rights-lawyers in North Carolina filed a class-action lawsuit in federal court against Avis and the owner of five Avis outlets in North and South Carolina for refusing to rent cars to blacks.

The lawyers representing would-be customers said corporate officials did nothing to stop it. A former manager for Avis Rent-A-Car says franchises in the Carolinas denied rentals to blacks over the past few years "if there was any way out of it."

Eleven days after a tape of a secretly recorded Texaco board meeting was made public, the oil giant settled a long-pending \$520 million class-action lawsuit Friday for \$176.1m. - the largest settlement of a racial-discrimination suit in the US. The suit alleged prejudice in Texaco's treatment of minority employees, and the tape added to the evidence, depicting executives using racial slurs and speaking of destroying documents sought by the plaintiffs.

Feagin said that outside of the rare public disclosure of racism from sports executives such as Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott and former general manager Al Campanis of the Los Angeles Dodgers, corporate officials generally keep incendiary issues of race at arm's length. "Corporate executives usually cover their tracks so well," Feagin said. "For me, the most chilling aspect is no other person in the [Texaco] meeting

spoke out against the language, or against destroying evidence. There wasn't one anti-racist at the meeting."

Feagin, who is white, said he thinks no one objected because whites hold far more racist attitudes than commonly perceived.

He cited a 1992 Anti-Defamation League national survey that listed eight stereotypes for people on intelligence, criminality and desire to work. More than 75 percent of respondents said one or more of the negative stereotypes was true for blacks, 55 percent two or more were true, and almost 30 percent said all the characteristics were true, Feagin said.

"We whites are in denial," Feagin said. "Our top political leaders, scholars and commentators all tell themselves and the general public that racism is dead or dying, and it's a great white lie. Racism is very much alive."

(AP)

SYRIA AND ISRAEL - From War to Peace-making

Moshe Ma'oz examines the history of relations between Israel and Syria throughout the Middle Eastern conflict, demonstrating its crucial importance for the strategic posture of both countries, and for the prospects of an overall Middle East peace settlement. Published by Oxford University Press, 1995. Hardcover, 262 pp.

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Musical Director
Avner Biron

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Wiz Auditorium, Rehovot
25.11.96 at 20:30
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Wiz Tel: 08-9343200
Lous Tel: 06-9478890

The Arts Museum of Art
26.11.96 at 20:30
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Tel: 03-6911277

Avner Biron, Conductor
Yuri Gluchovsky, Violin
Mostly Schubert

Schubert - Polonaise in B flat major for violin and orchestra
Schubert - Konzertstück in D major
Schubert - Symphony No. 5 in B flat major
Rautavaara - Pelimannit - Fiddlers op. 1
Hovhaness - Alleluia and Fugue op. 40/B

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in the Great Series
Concert no. 1
in the Instrumental Series

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Thursday, November 21, 1996

Koor may sell Israel Edible stake to CPC

DAVID HARRIS and news agencies

Koor Industries Ltd. is at an advanced stage of negotiations to sell its 24.5 percent share of food distributor Tami - Israel Edible Products to US-based CPC International Inc.

Australian firms look to invest here

Sunshine, IAI consider carbon fiber factory

DAVID HARRIS

SEVERAL Australian firms are currently considering multi-million dollar investments in Israel, the Center for Business Promotion revealed yesterday.

Indigo reports \$13.8m. in losses

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

INDIGO NV took a slight step toward the red, with net losses totalling \$13.8 million.

Company revenues for the quarter fell sharply to \$22.6m., a 47 percent drop over last year, when revenues totalled \$43.2m.

A statement released by the company attributed the drop in revenues from the second to third quarter to a continued slowdown in the short-run color printing market.

Analysts, however, were pessimistic about the struggling Netherlands-based maker of short-run digital color printers' ability to rebound.

about one-third of the company's staff, and a decrease of some 25% in operational expenses, analysts said.

"Personally I don't think there is much hope for Indigo," said Tal Liani, chief analyst at Xnet Securities. "The overall picture for the market for digital printers is not growing as expected."

As competition from colored xerox makers also takes a bite out of Indigo's market share, Indigo will have to do a great deal of educating in order to survive and to meet its

"ambitious" goal of becoming profitable by the middle of next year, experts said.

"There are a lot of big players in the field that believe in [Indigo's] product, but they'll have to start marketing and to refocus their product in other markets," said Douglas Goldstein, director of the securities division at Commstock Trading.

In May, when the company announced its restructuring plan, Indigo's shares were trading at about \$16. Since then the Nasdaq-traded shares have dropped continuously.

Indigo's printing systems produce brochures, flyers, business forms, newsletters and other printed documents using digital imaging technology. The company's customers include AT&T, 3M and Japan's Toppan Printing Co. Group.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Geneva court decision won't affect Nissim Gaon's local interests: A Geneva court's decision this week to declare businessman Nissim Gaon's Noga company bankrupt, will not affect his interests in Israel, his representative here told Ma'ariv yesterday.

AMR declines to comment on big plane order: AMR Corp., the parent of American Airlines, declined to comment yesterday on media reports that it will announce an order for up to \$6 billion in Boeing Co. aircraft today.

The Wall Street Journal reported yesterday that American Airlines plans to announce an order for "several hundred" new Boeing jets worth almost \$6b. to be delivered through 2020.

US trade deficit climbs 10.1%

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Costly oil imports and weak overseas sales of commercial aircraft helped drive the US trade deficit with the rest of the world unexpectedly higher in September, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

The deficit climbed 10.1 percent to \$11.34 billion from a revised \$10.3b. in August, contrary to Wall Street economists' expectations for a narrowing of the trade gap to \$9.5b.

A politically controversial shortfall on trade with China continued to swell in September, while a small improvement was posted with Japan.

Total exports of goods and services dropped 1.4% in September to \$68.79b., while imports increased for a third consecutive month, rising a slight 0.1% to \$80.13b.

strength earlier this year and sluggishness of recovery abroad is weighing on exports.

The Commerce Department said the US's cumulative deficit on trade for the third quarter of \$33.2b. was the highest in nearly nine years, since it hit \$38.6b. in the fourth quarter of 1987.

A day after a high-level Chinese delegation met US officials to discuss trade and economic issues, the department said the third-quarter deficit with China soared to \$13.3b. to surpass the quarterly deficit with Japan of \$11.9b.

Once again in September, China was the country with which the US had the biggest bilateral deficit of \$4.73b., an increase of 0.4% from August.

The deficit with Japan eased 0.3% to \$3.79b. in September.

"China has definitely surpassed Japan as the highest deficit country. This is going to cause some political rumblings, because we already have representatives over there right now and it's very contentious," Donald Maude, chief US economist at Scotia Capital Markets Inc., said.



A lone cyclist passes a line of trucks blocking access to Bordeaux yesterday as French truckers, striking for better pay and conditions, snarled traffic for the third day in a row.

Treasury bought same land twice

EVELYN GORDON

THE Treasury has no inventory of state-owned properties, Treasury officials admitted to the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday.

The admission was elicited during a discussion of the latest State Comptroller's Report, which revealed that the Treasury had bought a certain plot of land from the city of Rehovot twice, once in 1959 and once in 1988.

When committee MKs demanded to know how the Treasury could have bought a building it already owned, Gabi Shohat, who is in charge of government housing for the Treasury, and Deputy

Accountant-General Yoel Ophir admitted they do not have a complete inventory of government-owned property. According to Shohat, the Treasury inventory contains only property owned by government ministries. It does not include other government properties such as hospitals, prisons, army installations and land owned by the railroad.

Ophir told the panel the Treasury had had no choice but to waive its option to buy the building, because it was unable to find money for the purchase in the budget that year. Coben demanded that the Treasury report back to the committee on what steps it had taken to prevent such mishaps from recurring.

Arab bank union calls on sector to invest in region

BEIRUT (Reuters) - The Arab banking sector has a vital role to play in increasing the flow of foreign investment into the Arab world, the Union of Arab Banks said yesterday.

"One of the current and future challenges facing Arab banks is their ability to capitalize on growing international interest in the Arab region as a worthy investment area," it said in a report to an Arab banking conference in Beirut.

The Arab banks are urged, in view of this fact, to work to increase the volume of investment flows into the Arab world on several sectors, the first of which is developing the base of their investment products and instruments," the report added.

It said direct foreign investments into Arab states rose to \$1.8 billion in 1994 from \$1.7b. in 1993, but both figures were less than 1 percent of private international investments.

become the main player and the motor of the Arab capital markets and should issue eurobonds on international capital markets, the report said.

"These steps by the banks can boost the Arab world's position as an important investment region and contribute to attracting both expatriate and foreign capital and investments," it said.

Arab banks' share in financing Arab economies increased by 14.9% in 1995 to \$254b., mainly through project finance and syndicated loans for major investment projects, the report added.

Total assets of Arab banks rose by 20.7% in 1995 to \$289b. compared with a 6.1% increase in 1994. This was partly due to the return of expatriate money, increased inter-Arab investments, high interest rates coupled with monetary stability in many Arab countries, and the introduction of several new financial investment instruments.

Ports and Railways Authority Public Tender No. Haifa BN/18/96

NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RECOVERY AND REMOVAL OF THE SEA VESSEL 'SAN ANDREAS' FROM HAIFA PORT

- 1. The Ports and Railways Authority, Haifa Port (hereinafter, the "Authority" and/or "Haifa Port"), is interested in receiving bids from qualified marine works contractors (hereinafter, the "bidders") for the recovery and removal of the sea vessel "San Andreas" from the sea bed in Haifa Port (hereinafter, the "project").

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(MUD) TARGET OTMO Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents. Date: 19.11.96. Purchase Price: 156.13. Redemption Price: 153.89.

PRIME Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents. Date: 19.11.96. Purchase Price: 114.05. Redemption Price: 112.85.

Ports and Railways Authority Tender No. 1418/001

RAILWAY SIGNALLING SYSTEM

- 1. The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (P.R.A.), in accordance with the obligations with regard to selective tendering procedures, under the GATT Agreement on Governmental Procurement, invites suppliers to submit quotations for: Railway Signalling System (Hereafter the "System")

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Table with columns: Currency (deposit term), 3 MONTHS, 6 MONTHS, 12 MONTHS. Rows include U.S. dollar, Pound sterling, German mark, Swiss franc, Yen.

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (20.11.96)

Table with columns: CURRENCY AND TRANSFERS, BANKNOTES, Rep. Rates. Rows include various currencies like U.S. dollar, German mark, French franc, etc.

Key Representative Rates table showing U.S. Dollar, German mark, and other exchange rates.

NEW STOCK MARKETS table listing various stock indices and their values.

New York market indexes table showing DJ Industrial, DJ Utility, and other market indices.

Other stock market indexes table listing FTSE 100, Nikkei, and other international indices.

Israeli stocks in US table listing various Israeli companies and their stock prices.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY table listing various international financial data.

Libor rates table showing various interest rates for different terms.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. table listing various foreign financial metrics.

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES table listing various commodity prices.

US commodities table listing various US commodity prices.

London commodities table listing various London commodity prices.

Spot market metals (US) table listing various metal prices.

New York metal futures table listing various metal futures prices.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Main Tel Aviv Stocks table with columns for Name, Price, Change, and Volume, divided into Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading.

PM's remarks boost TASE

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



SHARES rose yesterday after Prime Minister Netanyahu called for additional public spending cuts, boosting optimism that interest rates will be lowered.

Among issues traded in Tel Aviv, the other banks followed First International higher.

European bourses end mixed

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - European bourses ended mixed yesterday, burdened by inflation worries and ignoring Wall Street which again set a record-breaking pace at the opening.

Stocks hit record highs

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - IBM and other big technology names led the stock market to record highs again yesterday in volatile trading.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Currency cross-rates table showing exchange rates for Mark, Sterling, Yen, Sfr, and Ffr.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK advertisement with logo and slogan 'THE PEOPLE YOU CAN BANK TO'.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices for various companies and markets.

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on calls in regime

MARKETS

MARKETS

Hap. Jerusalem coach Pini Gershon fired

Hapoel Jerusalem coach Pini Gershon was fired late Tuesday night after his team's return from an 89-80 loss to Portuguese champion Porto, the club's fourth straight defeat.

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Team sponsor Nahum Mambur, who brought Gershon to Jerusalem, said in an interview with Channel 1 that Gershon's "lack of time and concentration" had affected his coaching ability, and said that former Hapoel Jerusalem assistant coach Gadi Kedar had the inside track on the job.

making a major change: on Monday, Maccabi Rishon LeZion announced it was sending home veteran foreigner Darren Daye, who also played in the Israeli league for Hapoel Galil Elyon.

Agassi withdraws from tournament after crushing loss to Sampras

Shoulder pain ends match early for Seles

HANOVER, Germany (AP) - Every time Pete Sampras has played Andre Agassi over the past 15 months, he seems to hit a new high.



OY, GEVALT - Andre Agassi contemplates his poor performance against Pete Sampras yesterday.

"I've had spurts of tennis like this, but not for an entire match," he said. Agassi, a former No. 1 who has now dropped to No. 7, has not beaten Sampras since July 1995 in Montreal. Sampras now leads the series 12-8.

Women's Championships With her shoulder hurting and her father signaling her to stop, Monica Seles quit in the opening set of her first-round match at the Chase Championships yesterday.

Hapoel Galil Elyon scores upset victory over Benfica Lisbon

Hapoel Galil Elyon shocked Benfica Lisbon last night, beating the Portuguese visitors to Kfar Blum 92-85 in the eighth game of the preliminary round in the European Cup competition.

JOEL GORDIN

Gur Shelef and Mark Carver sparked the rally with key three-pointers, just before the interval buzzer.

Gur Shelef and Mark Carver sparked the rally with key three-pointers, just before the interval buzzer.

Manchester United gave Juventus a lesson in movement and passing in the first half, then soaked up 45 minutes of relentless United pressure in the second.

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Maccabi seeking crucial win in Milan

SOME advice to Maccabi Tel Aviv: while in Milan, enjoy the food, do some shopping and see the sites. If tradition holds to form, winning tonight's basketball game vs. Stefanel Milano may be all but impossible.

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Point guard Ferdinando Gentile will also have to be carefully guarded, although his outside shooting has been way off in the Euroleague, where he's just 5-31 on three-pointers.

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Juventus beats Manchester Utd. to clinch quarter-final place

Manchester United gave Juventus a lesson in movement and passing in the first half, then soaked up 45 minutes of relentless United pressure in the second.

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CLASSIFIEDS section containing various advertisements for real estate, services, and businesses.

Olajuwon hospitalized for tests as Rockets win

HOUSTON (AP) - Hakeem Olajuwon was hospitalized at half-time with an abnormal heartbeat but Charles Barkley had 22 points and 17 rebounds as the Houston Rockets beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 122-93 on Tuesday night.

Donald cuts through Indian middle-order

AHMEDABAD, India (Reuters) - South African fast bowler Allan Donald cut through the middle order on Wednesday to reduce India to 215 for eight at the close of the first day of the first Test.

Braves keep Cy Young-winner Smoltz

The Atlanta Braves reached an agreement yesterday to re-sign star pitcher John Smoltz, keeping intact the best rotation in U.S. Major League Baseball.

Table with Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings for the NBA.

Table with Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings for the NHL.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Braves keep Cy Young-winner Smoltz The Atlanta Braves reached an agreement yesterday to re-sign star pitcher John Smoltz, keeping intact the best rotation in U.S. Major League Baseball.

Police question Safed doctors on suspicion of possible mercy killings

DAVID RUDGE

POLICE have questioned four doctors at the Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed in the past two days on suspicion of causing the deaths of two terminally ill patients through negligence, or perhaps mercy killing.

The two deaths involved terminally ill patients who allegedly did not receive the appropriate treatment, which is suspected of having caused or contributed to their deaths. The possibility of other such cases has not been ruled out, according to police sources.

If this proves true, a proposed investigating committee will have to contend with philosophical and ethical questions, regarding the law and so-called "acts of mercy." The inquiries, according to the sources, are expected to take a long time, given the complexity of the issue and the questions likely to be raised.

The police inquiries began officially on Tuesday when detectives from the northern region police headquarters questioned two senior doctors at the hospital. Two more doctors were questioned yesterday. The questioning was carried out in coordination with the director of the hospital, after the district attorney's office received the initial reports and authorized the investigation.

The inquiry itself came about by coincidence as a result of information received by police in the past few months while investigating an entirely separate matter at the hospital involving allegations of false medical documents.

Northern region police spokeswoman Chief Superintendent Orit Messer-Harel confirmed that an inquiry had been launched and

that four doctors at the hospital had been questioned.

"The inquiry is at the initial stage after the district attorney's office gave authorization for the investigation to start," said Messer-Harel.

"Our intention is also to question the families of those who died and other elements. The police will also demand the establishment of a professional committee to examine the case."

The inquiry has shocked staff at the hospital. Management officials said they could not comment while the investigation was in progress, and referred all press inquiries to the Health Ministry.

According to hospital sources, however, the announcement of the probe put the entire staff under a cloud. "The atmosphere is very bleak and certainly not very pleasant, even though nobody believes for one minute that anyone here has done anything illegal," said a staff member.

According to police sources, the Health Ministry will be asked to co-opt doctors onto the proposed committee in order to assist in investigating all the medical aspects of the case.

Judy Siegel adds: Health Ministry Director-General Gabi Barabash said last night that after discussing the matter with Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz, and based on the information already known that the story reported in the media is very far from the truth.

Barabash said the ministry and the police would jointly check over the material in the hands of investigators in order to decide what, if anything, to do.



Vice-Admiral Luks Kroon, head of the Dutch Navy, salutes Israeli sailors as he disembarks from a Saar-5 yesterday. (Amir Pilak)

Ordnance Corps improving daily life for soldiers in Lebanon - down to underwear

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE IDF has provided troops in south Lebanon with top-of-the-line winter equipment and invested tens of millions of shekels to reinforce army outposts in the security zone and increase supplies.

This reduces the number of supply convoys which must expose themselves to Hizbullah guerrillas to reach the troops. The two-year program of the IDF's logistics and technology branch has enabled the outposts to go for some time without receiving food, water and fuel.

"The logistics branch supports the whole front, so that when a soldier lifts his weapon he hits his target and emerges victorious," said Col. D., deputy commander of the Galilee division on the northern border.

Some of the equipment being supplied to combat units are foam mattresses to be used while laying in ambush, electrically heated sleeping bags and battery-charged, heated insoles.

The traditional "gates" long underwear has been replaced by Gortex thermal suits, which remove the perspiration a soldier works up while on a mission. Where once insulated overalls were passed around, now they are issued to all soldiers.

"In any confrontation with the enemy, our soldiers have no excuse for failing because they lacked something," the colonel said.

IDF outposts across the front have undergone a transformation, from sand-bagged tent camps circled by corrugated tin-lined trenches, to dug-in fortresses enveloped in concrete and iron.

The dining rooms, kitchens and even the showers and latrines are made out of thick cement, protecting them from mortar and rocket attack.

"A few months ago when there were no reinforced latrines, you'd be sitting in there and praying nothing would happen," said Ra'anan Harman, 20, from Kibbutz On, who maintains the radios at the IDF outpost at the Beaufort Castle.

"The IDF makes sure that the soldiers in Lebanon have the best there is."

Most outposts have removed the dangerous solar heaters and replaced them with off-the-shelf electric radiators. Some have weight rooms and all have a public telephone with a free open line home.

At the Beaufort Castle position, Golani

troops helped unload the supply truck into refrigerated store rooms that will keep the vegetables fresh. The food here is high in protein and there are lots of chocolates, nuts and dried fruit to go around.

All this is aimed at easing the burden of protecting the northern border placed on the troops, who face daily skirmishes with Hizbullah gunmen. Despite the good intentions, showers are permitted only once a week, mortar fire is increasing and the mud grows thicker with each rain.

Hizbullah has identified the supply convoys as a weak point in the IDF line. In addition to reducing the number of convoys, the army has also paved alternate routes to some outposts which are less exposed, a senior commander said.

Brig.-Gen. Itzik Elimelech, head of IDF ordnance, said they have prepared for the winter in Lebanon from the individual soldier up to the level of the entire front.

He said combat troops would never lack any of the best equipment available, despite the fact that less and less funds are being allocated to the quartermaster branch each year.

"There is nothing we think they need which they don't have," Elimelech said.

WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Wind	Cloud
Amsterdam	01	05	41	rain
Buenos Aires	20	25	45	cloudy
Calcutta	15	21	37	cloudy
Chicago	05	08	11	rain
Frankfurt	03	07	11	cloudy
Geneva	05	08	11	rain
Hong Kong	19	23	21	cloudy
Jakarta	23	28	22	rain
London	07	11	15	cloudy
Los Angeles	14	17	19	rain
Madrid	03	07	11	cloudy
Moscow	00	03	01	cloudy
Mumbai	20	25	21	rain
New York	03	06	10	cloudy
Paris	04	08	12	rain
Rome	04	08	12	rain
Stockholm	03	07	11	cloudy
Sydney	14	18	22	rain
Tel Aviv	19	23	21	cloudy
Zurich	05	08	12	rain

Winning cards
IN yesterday's daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the queen of spades, queen of hearts, 10 of diamonds and ace of clubs.

Police to begin questioning MK Dayan

DAVID RUDGE

NATIONAL Police Headquarters yesterday authorized Ha'amakim district police to question Tsomet MK Haim Dayan over allegations that he beat his wife during an argument at their Migdal Ha'emeke home on Saturday.

Rachel Dayan lodged a complaint with police in the town on Saturday and also received medical treatment at Afula's Emek hospital on the same day for blows and scratches to various parts of her body. Haim Dayan has denied physically assaulting her.

Since the alleged perpetrator is an MK, permission had to be granted by the national police. The police must also inform the Knesset Speaker of the pending inquiry, especially as Dayan is the deputy speaker. The next stage, according to police, will be to contact Dayan and arrange a date for the questioning to take place. It will probably be held at the headquarters of the Ha'amakim district in Nazareth.

Dayan, himself a former policeman, has stated that there was tension between the couple, who have four children, but he has denied physically assaulting her.

Sharansky cancels Russia visit

DAVID HARRIS

INDUSTRY and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky has postponed his historic visit to Russia next week, due to a death in the family.

His wife's brother, Col. (res.) Michael Shugitz, 48, died suddenly yesterday morning. Until 18 months ago, Shugitz served as Israel's military attaché to Russia. Since then he had run his own business. Shugitz is being buried at 5 p.m. today at Mt. Herzl cemetery.

Some 50 businesspeople were scheduled to accompany Sharansky to Moscow and St. Petersburg. In all the delegation was to comprise some 100 people, including his mother and wife, Avital.

The visit was to have included meetings with businesspeople, government ministers and officials, in addition to discussions with members of the Russian Jewish community. Sharansky was to have visited a Moscow synagogue and the gulag where he was imprisoned, met with former colleagues who opposed the Soviet regime, and paid his respects at the grave of one of his role models, dissident Andrei Sakharov.

Shahal: Gold planted item about Peres and Arafat

LIAT COLLINS

MK Moshe Shahal (Labor) yesterday accused the Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold of deliberately planting a news story claiming that opposition leader Shimon Peres had advised Yasser Arafat not to sign the Hebron agreement.

Shahal told the Knesset that in addition to Gold a "certain minister" spoke on the subject with three journalists, "two of whom threw the information in the bin while [Yediot Aharonot] journalist Shimon Schiffer used the information."

Shahal attacked the Prime Minister's Office, calling it "ridiculously amateurish." He accused Gold "of being like his name, Netanyahu's 'Golden Boy.'"

"The last 150 days were the worst in Israeli politics," he said. "Everything was trampled on and kicked. Netanyahu surrounded himself with a gang of inexperienced [advisers] who step on each other."

Shahal went on to ridicule the responses put out by the Prime Minister's Office this week following

the publication of the item. "Who should we believe, [the premier's media advisor] Shai Bazak or Shimon Schiffer? Netanyahu on Sunday or Netanyahu on Monday? Two people have two versions: Schiffer and the Prime Minister's Office. One of the two is not speaking the truth. That's clear. Netanyahu and his boys played with dangerous matches and when the bonfire ignited they ran from it so they wouldn't be blamed for the fire. This is not the first time he planted a false item and afterwards denied it," Shahal said.

He stressed that the item had been deliberately created and planted and not just leaked.

Coalition MKs heckled Shahal during his address and Shahal in return tried to use the Knesset House Rules to prevent MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud) from responding by withdrawing his motion after it had been presented. Rivlin accused Shahal of creating a "blood libel."

Bazak issued a statement calling Shahal's claims "baseless, unfounded and utter rubbish."

Ramat Shlomo residents demand security fence

BILL HUTMAN

RESIDENTS of north Jerusalem's new Ramat Shlomo neighborhood have demanded a barbed-wire security fence to separate their community from "extremist elements" in adjoining Arab neighborhoods.

The municipality, however, expressed opposition to building the fence, although it has given its backing to increasing security measures in the haredi neighborhood, on Shuafat Ridge, near the Arab neighborhoods of Shuafat and Beit Hanina, and the Shuafat refugee camp.

"I am against the building of a fence, and in favor of taking other security measures that might be needed," Mayor Emdur Olmert told *The Jerusalem Post*, following a meeting with leaders of the haredi community on Tuesday.

Even under former mayor Teddy Kolek, the municipality in general opposed the building of fences around Jewish neighborhoods that bordered Arab ones, on grounds such a move would only give the impression of a divided city.

There are, however, two exceptions - a now dilapidated security fence between the northern border of Neveh Ya'acov built during the intifada, and a smaller fence built in about 1991 that is still in place between East Talpiot and Jebel Mukaber.

"From a security point of view, we believe a security fence is needed around Ramat Shlomo," said Yehuda Levinger, the neighborhood's security officer. "But we understand that the municipality doesn't want to give the impression that the city is divided, so will be satisfied for now with other security measures."

Levinger said that after the meeting with Olmert, Ramat Shlomo residents met with police and city officials, and a number of steps were agreed upon. The police are to be beef up patrols, the city will block off the dirt paths connecting Ramat Shlomo to nearby Arab neighborhoods, and the neighborhood council will work to increase participation in the Civil Guard, Levinger said.

Community leaders are also initiating a meeting, to be held next week, with the mukhtars of the nearby Arab neighborhood of Shuafat, according to Levinger. "In recent weeks we have had a wave of break-ins that were carried out by Arabs," Levinger said. "We have received intelligence reports about extremist elements in the area, and are concerned that our proximity to them makes us an easy target," he said.

A TRIBUTE TO IDF A PRAYER FOR THE SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL

Two posters with prayers for soldiers in English and Hebrew.

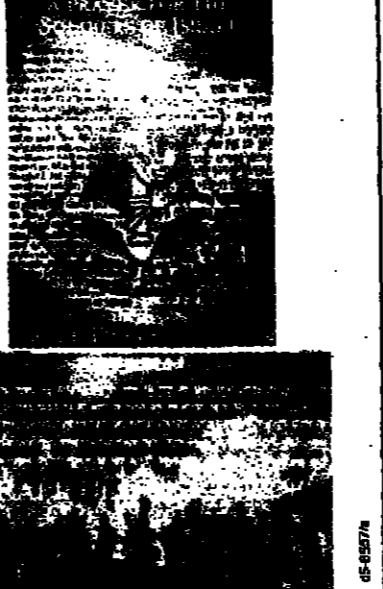
Poster a) Group of soldiers: 18 3/4" x 26 3/4" (47 1/2 cm x 68 cm)

Poster b) IDF shield: 27" x 19 1/2" (68 1/2 cm x 49 1/2 cm)

Produced by Mediat / CLC

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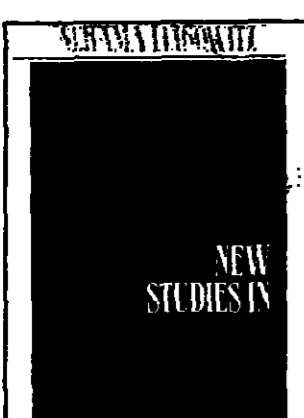
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